

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A bagging apparatus for bagging articles in bags supported from a wicket, the apparatus comprising:

a frame;

a bag station attached to the frame, the bag station comprising a plurality of wicket support bars;

a tooling assembly disposed vertically above and adjacent to at least one of said plurality of wicket bars;

a bag transfer assembly attached to the frame and comprising a bag engagement element for gripping a bag dispensed from said at least one of said plurality of wicket bars and transferring said bag to a seal assembly disposed vertically below the tooling assembly; and;

~~an indexing means~~ a movable bias element for indexing a wicket wire of a bag wicket attached to said at least one of said plurality of wicket bars toward ~~said tooling~~ a frame stop attached to said frame.

2. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said ~~indexing means~~ bias element indexes said at least one of said plurality of wicket bars toward said ~~tooling~~ frame stop upon each bagging cycle.

3. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 2 wherein said ~~indexing means~~ bias element indexes said at least one of said plurality of wicket bars a distance related to the thickness of said bag toward said ~~tooling~~ frame stop upon each bagging cycle.

4. (original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said bag station comprises four wicket bars.
5. (original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said plurality of wicket bars are disposed on a rotatable carousel attached to the frame.
6. (original) The apparatus of claim 4 wherein said four wicket bars are disposed on a rotatable carousel attached to the frame.
7. (original) The apparatus of claim 1 wherein said transfer assembly comprises a gripper element disposed on either side of said tooling assembly.
8. (original) The apparatus of claim 7 comprising a linear actuator attached to said gripper element disposed on either side of said tooling assembly.
9. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 7 8 wherein said linear actuator attached to said gripper element disposed on either side of said tooling assembly is attached to a cross beam vertically translatable about a vertical guide attached to the frame.
10. (currently amended) The apparatus of claim 2 1 wherein said ~~indexing means comprises a bias element biasing a wicket wire of said at least one of said plurality of wicket bars against a reference element~~ bias element is a single pneumatic cylinder attached to the frame.
11. (withdrawn)
12. (withdrawn).
13. (withdrawn)
14. (withdrawn)

15. (withdrawn)

16. (withdrawn)

17. (withdrawn)

18. (withdrawn)

19. (withdrawn)

20. (withdrawn)

21. (withdrawn)